

Message Text

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62

ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-14 ISO-00 CU-05 USIA-15 CIAE-00

INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 AID-20 DRC-01 /081 W

----- 045491

R 271630Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY MASERU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4395

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MASERU 1137

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PINS BC LT

SUBJ: SEOTSANYANA

REF : STATE 206788

1. CHARGE CALLED IN SR PERMANENT SECRETARY MOTHUSI MASHOLOGU SEP 24 TO DISCUSS SETTSANYANA CASE. CHARGE BRIEFLY OUTLINED AFGRAD PROGRAM UNDER WHICH SEOTSANYANA SELECTED, EXPLAINED AAI HAD WITHDRAWN SUPPORT AFTER SEOTSANYANA'S FLIGHT, AND ASKED WHETHER GOL HAD ALSO FORMALLY WITHDRAWN ITS APPROVAL AND WHAT GOL REACTION WOULD BE IF SEOTSANYANA SHOULD SECURE PRIVATE SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORT, AND ASKED WHEN TRIAL OF DETAINEES MIGHT BEGIN. ALSO ASSURED MASHOLOGU THAT U.S. GOVERNMENT HAD NO INVOLVEMENT WITH SEOTSANYANA BEYOND AFGRAD SCHOLARSHIP.

2. MASHOLOGU SAID HE WOULD HAVE TO SPEAK TO "HIS MINISTER," I.E., PRIME MINISTER, BEFORE GIVING DEFINITIVE REPLY. AS HE UNDERSTOOD CASE, HOWEVER, SEOTSANYANA IS REQUIRED AS WITNESS ON BASIS OF STATEMENT HE GAVE POLICE IN EARLY DAYS OF INVESTIGATION, WELL BEFORE HE ESTABLISHED ANY ATTORNEY/CLIENT RELATIONSHIP WITH DETAINEES.

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MASHOLOGU SURMISED THAT ONCE SEOTSANYANA HAD CLEARED UP

HIS LEGAL SITUATION HE WOULD BE FREE TO TAKE UP YALE SCHOLARSHIP. HE SAID GOVERNMENT'S ATTITUDE TOWARD TRIAL OF DETAINEES WAS THAT IT WAS SUBJUDICE AND IT WOULD BE IMPROPER TO DISCUSS IT. HOWEVER, HE FELT HE COULD ADVISE REPRESENTATIVE OF FRIENDLY GOVERNMENT THAT GOL WAS ACTIVELY PRODDING ATTORNEY GENERAL TO BRING CASE TO TRIAL OR DISMISS CHARGES, DEPENDING ON THE EVIDENCE. HE BELIEVED ATTORNEY GENERAL WAS INDEED PREPARED TO MOVE CASE TO TRIAL IN VERY SHORT TIME. MASHOLOGU SAID HE WOULD GET BACK TO CHARGE AS SOON AS HE COULD SEE PRIME MINISTER ABOUT THE MATTER.

3. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF SAME DAY, AAI REPRESENTATIVE MOKOSE ADVISED THAT SHE HAD ACTED ON HER OWN DEDUCTION IN INFORMING AAI OF WITHDRAWAL OF GOL SUPPORT

FOR SEOTSANYANA SCHOLARSHIP, BUT SHE HAD NOT RECEIVED SUCH NOTIFICATION FROM GOL. ORIGINAL GOL APPROVAL OF SCHOLARSHIP WAS SIGNIFIED BY PARTICIPATION OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN SELECTION PROCESS AND BY ISSUANCE OF PASSPORT.

4. WILL REPORT FURTHER WHEN MASHOLOGU ADVISES US OF GOL POSITION.
HAUGHT

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